

October 14, 2014



Fifth District Congressman visits Perpich

Keith Ellison, U.S. Congressman, visited Perpich on Oct. 6 and received a briefing from executive director Sue Mackert on the state of arts education in Minnesota. He also toured the high school and stopped into a class on African drumming and music. Thanks for stopping by, Congressman!



Janika Vandervelde, music instructor, speaks at Pen meeting

Janika Vandervelde discussed how music technology has changed the way composers compose music and how music technology has impacted music education at a recent meeting of the Minnesota chapter of the National League of American Pen Women. Vandervelde, a well-known composer as well as an instructor at Perpich, also demonstrated three different types of musical composition software.



From left to right; Anna Boguszewski, Mary Buie, Io Irvin and Riona Ryan

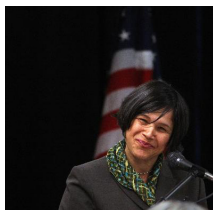
Four Perpich students win National Merit honors

Four Perpich seniors made the coveted National Merit Scholarship list of semifinalists and commended students: Anna Boguszewski, music, is a National Merit semifinalist and Mary Buie, theater; Io Irvin, visual; and Riona Ryan, music, were named commended students. Boguszewski will continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million to be offered in spring 2015. Buie, Irvin, and Ryan of Mankato are among 34,000 commended students being recognized for their exceptional academic promise.



Junior visual arts students try their hands at book arts

The dictionary project for juniors in visual arts asked them to complete, in four days, a visual dictionary, each page of which contains the student's first and last name that has three different, key identifying characteristics. Students could use symbols, objects, drawings, text, colors and collage. Look at the results at perpich.mn.gov/gallery



Perpich is long-time partner with school recognized for improvement

A recent [Star Tribune story](#) states that “one of the most remarkable school turnarounds came from Atwater Cosmos Grove City.” Virginia McFerran, theater education coordinator in Perpich Outreach, reports this is a district that Perpich has worked with over the last few years. “The Perpich theater program began there in the 2012-13 school year, followed by the Perpich dance program 2013 through 2015. In 2012, before we started working there, the district had the state’s lowest rating. Now it has received a top state rating and is listed as a National Blue Ribbon School,” McFerran reported proudly.

Artsience students will attend Minnesota Social Impact Center launch in St. Paul

The Minnesota Social Impact Center will launch Nov. 12, 6:30–9:30 p.m., at Macalester College in St. Paul. Artsience students from Perpich and instructor Tory Peterson will attend. The event is intended as a celebration to advance social entrepreneurship and innovation in Minnesota. Perpich is an outreach partner for this exciting event and invites any interested members of the Perpich community to attend. Ticket costs range from \$10 to \$35 per person.

At the event you can:

- Meet innovators and change-agents who want to address today’s social and civic issues
- Gain insights from bold leaders for social impact in Minnesota
- Hear stories of transformational social impact from 30 local change-agents
- Share your expertise during an “Impact Collider”
- Find out about the plans for the new center



Many performances and events coming up in October and November

Dance students will be performing at Bryant Lake Bowl on Wednesday, Oct. 22, as part of the 9X22 Dance/Lab (named for the dimensions of the stage at BLB). A discussion moderated by choreographer/curator Laurie Van Wieren follows each piece, giving audience and choreographers alike the opportunity to react and explore the work together.

On the next day, Thursday, Oct. 23, media arts will open its junior/senior photography exhibit at 5:30 p.m. in the Basta Gallery. The reception and opening immediately precede the first music concert of the year at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Hall. A second music concert will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday in the same location.

The senior visual students have had their self-portraits on the wall for a while. Now it’s the juniors’ turn. The junior self-portrait exhibition will open at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 29 in the visual arts gallery.

Literary arts joins the fall programs with the first senior reading at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6, in the Black Box Theater. And the first junior reading is at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 24, in the Performance Hall. The first theater program of the fall will be Nov. 19-22, 7:30 p.m. each evening, in the Black Box Theater.



Portfolio Day a hit for students and colleges both

Juniors and seniors in the studio arts—visual and media—approached the annual Portfolio Day on Monday, Oct. 13, with a combination of enthusiasm and trepidation, but report that representatives from the top art schools and universities were friendly, encouraging and helpful. Pat Benincasa, visual arts instructor, was pleased with the day. “The reps are telling me that the quality of our students’ work is very polished and that they are very articulate.”

The annual event, put together in cooperation with Minneapolis College of Art and Design, allows Perpich students unprecedented access to recruiters from most of the major schools of art in the U.S. as well as premier schools from Canada. They can show their portfolios, get pointers to improve their work and its range plus get the chance to ask questions about the programs offered by the schools represented. It is not unusual for Perpich students to be recruited on the spot and sometimes offered scholarships.

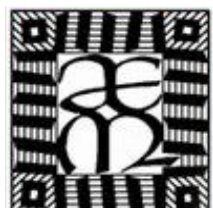


Dedication Day featured alumni and heartfelt speeches

Dedication Day is a ceremony Perpich has each year to welcome new students and staff into the Perpich community and to mindfully consider the nature of dedication and what it means for each of us at the school. Trina Keller, French instructor, made the faculty/staff speech and seven student representatives also spoke, representing each arts area. The alumni speaker was Corey Hess ('00, music) He shared his story that coming to Perpich was a life altering experience. The ceremony finished with a performance by the band, More Than Lights.

New Foundation leadership

Rob Jacobs, parent of Adam Jacobs ('13, media), has been elected chair of the Perpich Foundation. He replaces Linda Henning, who led the Foundation for more than five years, heading up highly successful fundraising efforts, events and volunteer management. Thank you so much, Linda, and welcome to Rob!



Perpich educators publish

[The Art Educators of Minnesota's fall newsletter](#) includes Perpich art history instructor Craig Farmer's look at women writing about artists and Perpich visual and media arts education coordinator Jeremy Holien's update on Perpich.



Media arts teacher does performative art on campus and off

Aki Shibata, media arts teacher and performative artist, invited students and staff at Perpich to cut her hair over the lunch hour on Tuesday, Oct. 14. Dozens of students, fellow instructors and principal Antwan Harris took her up on her invitation and walked away with locks of Shibata's hair in small glassine envelopes labeled "Offer." The invitation read:

"My art piece, "Offer," will be displayed tomorrow . . .

This is Aki's act of offering her trust to the community.

Participants can cut her hair as much as they please.

They are allowed to be free with the scissor as they wish.

Participants will receive 100% of Shibata's trust and her hair."

Shibata filmed the event and media arts student Satya Varghese Mac documented it with photographs.



Shibata also will perform "stranger + kitchen/Aki Shibata," a performative culinary art activity that will take place with Shibata, a random stranger and the host curator/family within the TuckUnder Projects home, kitchen and dining area on Nov. 2 and Nov. 16, 4:30-7:30 p.m., 5120 York Ave. N., Minneapolis. Via the exploration of human behavior and participant interaction, Shibata will perform a short series of two privately performed meals, randomly choosing strangers from a signup sheet at the initial opening, along with the curator and family, which are witnessed by the invited public. The stranger and host are invited to bring a singular special ingredient for the meal for the artist/chef to add and interpret. With the viewer interacting via the act of looking, the artist will cook a meal in the TuckUnder kitchen and serve the meal within the TuckUnder dining area. Unanticipated awkward social interactions will present themselves to the artist, stranger, host family and the viewers.



Darryl Scarborough

More new employees for Perpich

Darryl Scarborough joins Perpich as payroll manager. Before moving to Perpich, he worked at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. He is originally from Texas and is an U.S. Army veteran. He is a graduate of the University of Mary in North Dakota.

Annette Knudsen is the new special education teacher. She has been in special education for 17 years and next year will be completing licensure for autism spectrum disorders. She received a degree in special education and a specific learning disabilities license at Minnesota State University-Moorhead and also holds licensure in emotional or behavioral disorders. Before joining Perpich Arts High School, she taught at South Washington County Schools in both elementary and high school for eight years.

Welcome to Darryl and Annette!



Annette Knudsen

First information session on Saturday, Nov. 1

Please share with any students and their families the opportunity to stop by Perpich at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1, for the school's first information session on the 2015-16 school year. The session is two hours and includes presentations by school leaders, a Q&A session with students and teachers and a tour of the school. No RSVP is required.

**Alumni Day scheduled for January 9**

Mark your calendars and be sure to RSVP at www.facebook.com/events

The event will be 1-3 p.m. at Perpich Arts High School.

Calendar

Dates

Oct 15	Late Start PSAT Test
Oct 16–17	No Classes
Oct 20	Classes Resume
Oct 22	Dance Performance Bryant Lake Bowl
Oct 23	Media Arts Junior/Senior Photo Exhibition
Oct 23–24	Music Concert
Oct 29	Visual Art Junior Self Portrait Exhibition
Oct 30–31	Parent Teacher Conferences
Nov 1	Information Session
Nov 6	Senior Literary Reading

Perpich Arts High School	6125 Olson Memorial Highway	Sue Mackert
Perpich Arts Outreach	Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422	Executive Director
Perpich Arts Library	perpich.mn.gov	763-279-4160

If you have news or events, please email: [Communications](#). Follow us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Pinterest](#)